

what we will do in case the Germans break through and the British are driven back. I would much prefer to work on the problem of what we would do if the British advance. I am working also along that line. It seems to me that the plans of the British have been too much concerned with the defensive and making preparations for a retreat, instead of making preparations for an advance. It may be that if I had been at this business for four years I would be willing to sit tight in my defenses but I do not believe I would.

(Enclosure in diary)

GERMANY'S LOST CAUSE

Officer Prisoners' Admission

In order to form an idea of the effort made by the Germans since March 21 to obtain a decision, says Havas, it may be recalled that during 1917 in all 370 engagements were fought in the Franco-British operations on the Aisne, the Chemin des Dames, Flanders and the Cambrai front. This year in the period of only four months since March 21 no fewer than 430 engagements have been fought, and about 66 of these during the present battle.

The Germans have been loud in their scorn of what they termed "American bluff" but the German High Command itself, although it sought to deceive the people, has had no illusions since June about the American danger. An important attack in the Ourcq region should have been carried out in June, but the Germans' plans were changed, because some preceding engagements with American troops had proved their extremely hard fighting value and their extraordinary tenacity.

Some German officer prisoners, whose troops have fought Americans, freely admitted that "if all the American Army had the same dash, Germany's cause was lost."

Daily Mail, July 26/18.

The Germans are learning that the Americans can and will fight. The next drive will make them realize it more than ever.

July 28, 1918, Sunday. Another quiet night as far as aeroplanes are concerned, thanks to the continuous cloudy weather. The German's long distance guns decided to tune up and threw three or four shells, probably from H. V. guns, in this direction. They landed near Watou, in the vicinity of the camp of one of our machine guns. No casualties.

This morning I went to church with Captain Winthrop at Proven. Service conducted in Latin and Flemish. While I could not understand the words I could get the spirit of the meeting and enter into its worship. I enjoyed the service (Catholic). Personally I believe it would be much better if the Priest would talk in such a manner